

Effective Youth Development

**A Strategy To Ensure District Youth Grow Up
Problem-Free, Fully Prepared and Fully Engaged**

Presented to the Committee on the Prevention of Juvenile Homicide and Youth Crime
by

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Kelly Miller Middle School

Snapshot of DC Youth

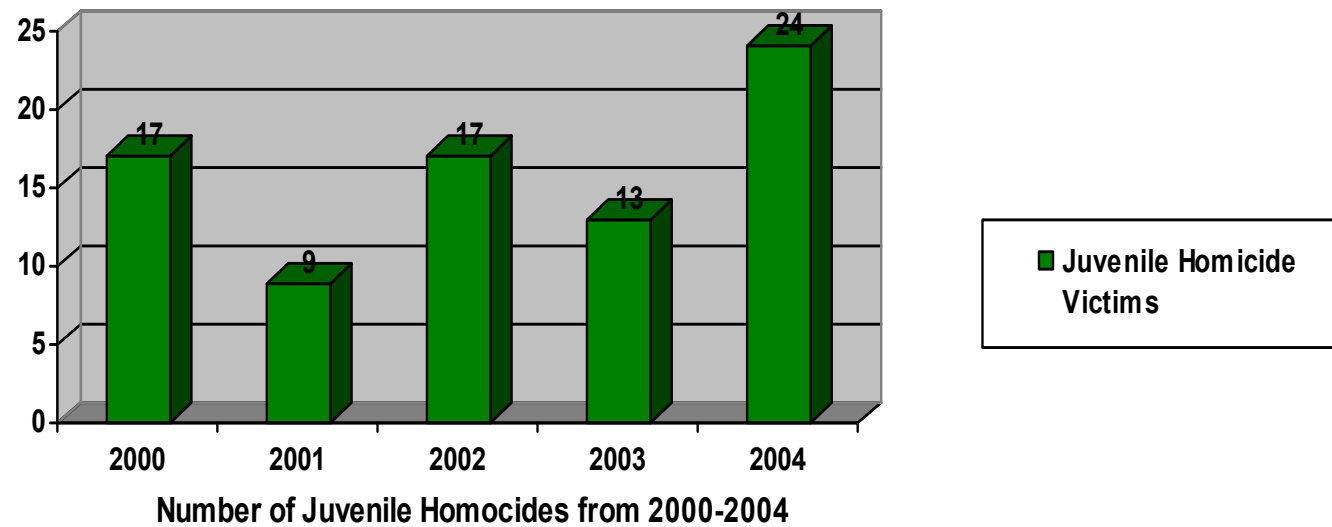
- 110,544 children & youth under age 20 in DC
- 47, 328 youth ages 10 – 19

Williams' Administration Policy Priorities:

- **Youth at-risk**
- **Jobs and Economic Opportunity**
- **Affordable Housing**
- **Health Care**

**Violence is a primary
risk factor faced by
District youth.**

Picture of Juvenile Homicides



We are hopeful that the current decrease in juvenile homicides—8 in 2005 compared to 21 over the same period last year—will continue.

**The best strategy to
prevent youth violence
is to support positive
youth development.**

Youth Development is...

Youth seeking to

- ❑ be safe,
- ❑ feel cared for,
- ❑ be valued,
- ❑ be useful,
- ❑ be spiritually grounded

All youth should have:

- Adequate nutrition, health and shelter
- Multiple supportive relationships with adults and peers
- Challenging and engaging activities and learning experiences
- Meaningful opportunities for involvement and membership
- Physical and Emotional Safety

8 Areas of Systemic Change

- Youth-focused, developmental outcomes
- Adequate, flexible, aligned funding
- Increased interagency collaboration
- High-quality, relevant data
- Agency leadership and workforce capacity

Systemic Change (cont.)

- Quality services and programs
- Youth participation in planning and design
- Public access to information & services

Safety First! Initiatives

Responding to Immediate Needs

A positive youth development strategy must engage public safety officials, social services agencies, and community partners to work together to prevent youth violence.

- Health Information Response Team
- Expansion of Truancy Reduction Efforts to Middle School
- Teen Dating Violence Assessment
- Expansion of School-based Mental Health

Health Information Response Team

- Increase our ability to prevent violence through survey of violence and injury data
- Partnership with Howard University Department of Pediatrics
- Modeled after Baltimore's Operation Safe Kids/KidStat program

Expand Truancy Reduction Effort

- In 04-05 school year, reduced truancy at elementary schools by 40%
- Truancy Court model
- Expanding to middle schools beginning with Garnet Patterson
- Interagency collaboration: DCSC, DCPS, DMH, MPD, OAG, CFSA, Neighborhood Collaboratives

Teen Dating Violence Assessment

- High levels of teen dating violence in the District
- Assessing current prevention activities and procedures to prevent and respond to incidents of teen dating violence

Expanding School-based Mental Health

- Expand from 29 schools to 44 schools
- Addition of 13 DC public schools and 2 public charter schools
- Performance Measures:
 - Utilization of mental health services offered in school
 - Consumer satisfaction w/services offered
- Increase of \$1.4 million in FY 06 budget

Safety First! Initiatives

Responding to Immediate Needs

A positive youth development strategy must engage public safety officials, social services agencies, and community partners to work together to prevent youth violence.

- Second Responder Program
- Gang and Crew Intervention Training
- School Security

Second Responder Program

- Establish MOU between MPD and Healthy Families/Thriving Communities Collaborative Council outlining operational protocols
 - 1-year pilots in 6D and 7D
 - \$700,000 in FY06 funding
- Continue to support Clergy Response Team (CRT) Counseling Services
- Performance Measures
 - # of referrals
 - # of family team meetings attended by the family

Gang/Crew Intervention Training

- \$400,000 grant to continue work of Gang Intervention Partnership (GIP) in NW
- \$800,000 grant to expand gang intervention efforts and provide training for service providers
 - East of the River Clergy-Police-Community Partnership
 - Columbia Heights/Shaw Family Support Collaborative
 - Peaceoholics
- Identify service and capacity gaps
- Special focus on “Girl Gangs” and gender-specific interventions

School Security

- MPD School Safety Division
 - 99 School Resource Officers plus 14 Supervisors
 - 34 New Crossing Guards
- Contract Monitoring
- Transit Security/Bus Stops
 - Collaboration between Metro Transit PD, MPD, DCPS, and DDOT
- Performance Measure
 - Rate of Part 1 crimes on public school property per 1,000 students

Everyone has a role to play in supporting DC youth!

